



**etb**

Bord Oideachais & Oiliúna  
Ath Cliath & Dún Laoghaire  
Education & Training Board  
Dublin & Dún Laoghaire

REF: PL/TW

Marian Carr  
Assistant Principal Officer  
Further Education Section  
Department of Education  
Cornamaddy  
Athlone

15<sup>th</sup> July, 2013

**Further Education Section**

18-07-2013

**Department of Education & Skills**

Dear Marian,

As you will have seen in the national newspapers, the Coordinator of Youthreach Lucan, Shay Brady, was recently convicted of fraud and received a three year suspended sentence. Mr Brady, who resigned from County Dublin VEC once the fraud was detected, was convicted of defrauding County Dublin VEC of €40,000. County Dublin VEC reported the misappropriation to the Gardaí once the matter was exposed and they handled the case from that time with our full cooperation in relation to documentary evidence etc. The case was taken for the amount of €40,000 by the Gardaí as this was what Mr Brady had admitted to in his statements to them.

County Dublin VEC was of the view that the full amount involved was at least €202,000 and could have been over €300,000. However, only the Gardaí would be in a position to uncover the full nature of the sums involved as the inquiry would have involved a historical trawl of trainees and their personal bank account details.

County Dublin VEC sought to recover the amount taken from its insurers, Irish Public Bodies. Following lengthy discussions, IPB agreed to reimburse County Dublin VEC for €202,000 in a full and final settlement. In this regard, the €40,000 paid back by Mr Brady will go to IPB as part of that final agreement.

As indicated in the past, this has been a very difficult case for everyone involved in County Dublin VEC at the time. There was a betrayal of trust by an employee of long-standing who had been held in high regard until then. There was, and is, a sense of anger and abhorrence that the Youthreach trainees were denied opportunities and resources that would otherwise have been available to them had this money not been misappropriated.

As also previously indicated, the systems used for purchasing and payments were changed following this matter coming to our attention. The procedures up to that time had met all VSSU guidelines but have now been amended so that this sort of fraud could not be carried out by an

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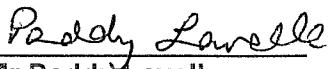
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Príomhoifigeach  
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Chief Executive Officer

individual employee again. Following the matter coming to our attention, an external audit was carried out by into other Youthreach centres but no other issues arose.

I will be happy to provide any further information as required.

Yours sincerely,

  
**Mr Paddy Lavelle**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

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